

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. With the dissolution of the Kungang Political School in February 1953, the North Korean authorities made sweeping changes in their policy for training agents for infiltration into South Korea. The ten branch units of the 526 North Korean Army Unit¹ and all its auxiliary liaison centers, training centers, and guidance centers for agents operating in South Korea were also abolished. The new policy was to scrap the old methods of indoctrination, guidance, and dispatching of agents, and give the students training in Marxism and Leninism. The new program included brain-washing. A 3-year program for the conversion of South Korea to Communism was launched.
2. The purge of KIM Ung-pin (6855/2019/1755), Director of the Kungang Political School; YI Sung-yop (2621/2110/9756),² former Minister of Justice and Chairman of the People's Inspection Committee; and PAE Ch'ol (5952/0772), Commander of the 526 Army Unit, was linked to the change in policy. YI and KIM were charged with abuse of authority, sending agents into South Korea by force and torturing those who refused to go, and sacrificing their own comrades without gain to the party. In at least one case YI allowed the murder of North Korean Labor Party agents in the cellar of a house in Seoul. KIM was charged with using bungling and autocratic methods in his conduct of the school and his general failure to produce results. PAE was accused of enlisting the aid of an ROK officer introduced to him by his wife to conduct an assembly center for dispatching a group of agents to South Korea. This group was promptly rounded-up and arrested as a result of a message sent by wire from North Korea.

1. [] Comment. The 526 Army Unit is also known as the South Korean Labor Party Guidance Bureau or the Guerrilla Guidance Bureau.

2. [] Comment. See [] concerning the purge of YI Sung-yop and other high North Korean Labor Party officials.

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